

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

17 MARCH 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Cyprus

a. The lull continues on the island and the next crisis may center on the sticky problem of the terms under which the UN force will operate.

b. Another group of Canadians arrived yesterday and the rest of the Canadians will be landing within a week. The main Irish, Swedish, and Finnish contingents will be coming next month, though advance parties may reach Nicosia sooner.

c. Meanwhile, the Turkish Government is attempting to maintain an appearance of forceful and positive support for its interests on Cyprus.

d. Its most recent actions include an authorization to Inonu by the Turkish Parliament to send troops to Cyprus when he thinks it necessary, a series of carefully manipulated popular demonstrations favoring intervention, and well-publicized daily cabinet meetings attended by ranking military leaders.

e. In addition, extensive publicity is being given to Turkish military activity opposite Cyprus, despite the fact that this readiness has receded since late last week.

(Cont'd)

f. One objective is to try to restore some semblance of credibility to the Turkish threat to intervene, badly tarnished by the government's failure to move so far.

g. They hope to encourage Makarios to keep a tight rein on his henchmen and, incidently, relieve pressures on the Inonu government.

2. Chile

a. Presidential candidate Duran has withdrawn from the race following the dismal defeat suffered by his center-right coalition in a local by-election Sunday. His resignation has not yet been accepted.

b. The election in question took place in a district which in the past has generally returned center-right candidates by comfortable margins. This time victory went to the candidate of the Communist-Socialist Popular Action Front, who polled almost 40% of the vote in a three-cornered race.

c. While local issues and personalities played a big role, all three national parties chose to make the election a test of strength. All spent large sums and sent in big names from the national party level.

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d. The chief beneficiary of all this could well be Senator Allende, the Popular Action Front's presidential candidate. His election would raise a specter of a Chilean government in which the Communists had a large say.

3. North Vietnam-
South Vietnam

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4. Cambodia

a. After a weekend of slighting references to "Anglo-Saxons" and "America and its valets," Sihanouk yesterday lashed out at the North Vietnamese.

b. The cause of his ire was a rather vague response from Hanoi to his request that it guarantee Cambodia's borders and neutrality. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Sihanouk says that he will resume talks with South Vietnam, which he says is sending a delegation to Phnom Penh in the next few days.

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5. Libya

a. Pressures against the US and British base agreements are continuing.

b. According to press reports, Parliament has unanimously "authorized" the government to start negotiations to liquidate the base rights and to achieve their full evacuation.

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c. Both King Idris and Premier Muntassir have taken the position in conversations with US and UK representatives that they do not fully sympathize with Parliament on the base issue, but the unanimous vote on this resolution argues government acquiescence at a minimum.

NOTES

A. Saudi Arabia

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B. Yemen-USSR Sallal arrived yesterday in Moscow and the Egyptians, who know from experience that he is easily led, say they are standing by to "extract the bear's claws from his throat," if necessary. Embassy Taiz points out that he has most of his top supporters with him, opening the possibility of a palace coup provided the Egyptians do not strongly oppose such a move.

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C. Somalia-USSR

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D. Dahomey Dahomean military leaders will reportedly be asking the government to order French troops out of the country. They apparently suspect the French of instigating the attempt last weekend to restore ex-Premier Maga and other northerners to power.

E. Communist China Peiping's drive to reindoctrinate China's youth with the ever-correct doctrines of Mao has droned into its second year, amid indications that the campaign has reached a point of diminishing returns.

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F. Algeria-USSR Rumors are about in Algiers that Ben Bella, fresh from visits to Bucharest and Paris, will spend May Day in Moscow.